up. I think he has not joined the walk-out. He did not want to move his resolution.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Why not we send for him ?

President.—I sounded the bell. Nobody turned up. His name may be included as a case of doubt. And Mr. Raman Menon ?

Mr. Sheik Abdul Qadir Sahib Bahadur.—At first he did not walk out. Subsequently he walked out.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—Mr. K. Raman Menon too. He went last. He went rather late without making any noise.

President.—The test is we must take them to have participated in the walk-out, if they walked out without losing time. But if they took some time, and rested for a few minutes, then I think you may take their case as one not within the walk-out.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—They have walked out. They are not present here.

President.—It must appear in the proceedings who all are the Members who walked out.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Regarding Mr. Ambooken, you may ask him.

The Cochin Jenmi Kudiyan Bill.

President.—The next item of business is Mr. Rama Ayyar's Bill. He is absent. So, it is taken as withdrawn.

The Cochin Free Compulsory Primary Education Bill.

President.—The next item is Mr. K. T. Mathew's Bill. Absent. Taken as withdrawn.

Resolutions on matters of General Public Interest.

1. *The reduction in the rate of school fees (contd.)*

President.—The next item is continuation of the discussion of Mr. Ambooken's resolution. It was discussed in part yesterday. The resolution has been moved in the Council. So the Council is in possession of the resolution. Is it not, Mr. Kochunni Menon ?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It has to be put to the vote.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Yesterday's resolution is not finished.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The mover may not have to say anything more.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Mr. Ambooken's resolution is to-day's resolution. Yesterday's resolutions are all passed.

President.—It was only moved. There was no quorum, and so the sitting was brought to a close 20 minutes to 5.

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What I point out is that the House is in possession of the resolution, having been moved and seconded and discussed to some extent. The proper procedure will be, if there is no further discussion, that the resolution has to be put to the vote. Any Member wishing to speak on this resolution? The Government side was represented. I mean it was one of opposition. Mr. Matthai spoke, I think.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—Yes. It was one of opposition.

President.—I am putting your resolution to the vote of the House, Mr. Ambooken. Yesterday it was moved, and the House is in possession of the resolution.

Mr. O. R. Chummar.—It was at the time of the Director's speech that the Council ended. So he can begin.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I have already expressed my views.

President.—So, if you want to reply, I shall give you an opportunity.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—The only point that was raised by the Member for Education was that the important question is its financial aspect. Now, when we reduce the fees of Primary Department alone, the total amount of reduction for one year will not be more than 7 or 10 thousand rupees. So, when considered with the financial stability of our Government at present, I don't think that that amount is so very high. If you give half the reduction for Lower Secondary Department alone a year, it will not be more than Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 12,000. So, I don't think it is a very big sum when considered with the financial situation of our Government at present, and not only that, we must find out any other new source of income, if we are convinced that the reduction is quite necessary. In that light also this question is very important. The most important point that has to be considered in this connection is whether the average public has any difficulty on account of the high rates of fees. In that respect, I can say that anybody, who has got a real knowledge of the financial situation of the public, will openly say that there is real difficulty for the public. So, I hope that this resolution will be rather accepted by the Government or supported by all the Members who are here.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—May I mention just one word? He said that,—

President.—Not he, the Member said.

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—The Member said that the loss of income would be only about Rs. 7,000.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Not exactly.

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Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—It is not merely the reduction of fee that we have got to consider. We have to compensate the Aided school Managers for any reduction of fee, because the grant-in-aid now is based on the net expenditure. So, it will be much more than 7 thousand. And then he said that the only ground I said was the financial ground. While it is not merely financial ground, there is another reason that I heard, and that was that English education is intended only for well-to-do classes. What the State thinks as charity is vernacular education. That is all that the poor have the right to claim. So, there is not the same necessity.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Why not the poor have English education also?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—That is the view of the State at present. English education is only intended for the well-to-do classes.

Srimati T. Madhavi Amma.—May I know the amount of fees collected from the Lower Secondary Department?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—I cannot say. It is something like 30 thousand for the Sirkar schools alone.

President.—The resolution before the House moved by Mr. Ambooken runs thus:—"This Council recommends to the Government that owing to the financial incapability of the public, a substantial reduction is to be made in the rate of school fees at least in the Primary and Lower Secondary Departments of schools"

(*The resolution was put to the vote and was lost.*)

President.—Do you like to have a poll, Mr. Ambooken?

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—No, Sir.

President.—We will now pass on to resolutions for discussion on this day's agenda.

(*Resolutions 2 to 6 the movers being absent, were considered to be withdrawn.*)

(2) *A Committee for rural reconstruction.*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*This Council recommends to the Government the appointment of a committee (the personnel of which will be named by the mover on the fate of the resolution being known) for the purpose of framing a comprehensive scheme of rural reconstruction for the villages of Cochin.*

(3) *Department of Agriculture under a separate head.*

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—*This Council respectfully recommends to the Government that in view of the important part that the development of agriculture will have to take in improving the economic condition of people and mitigating the evils of unemployment the department of agriculture be*

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